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*Admitted only in Maryland
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Art Unit 1647

Attn: Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 09/894,018; Filed: June 27, 2001
For: **Method and System for Optimizing
Minigenes and Peptides Encoded Thereby**
Inventors: SETTE *et al.*
Our Ref: 2473.0320003/EKS/PAC

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a);
2. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111;
3. Credit Card Payment Form (PTO-2038) in the amount of \$1,020.00 to cover the fee for a three month extension of time; and
4. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

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EKS/PAC/dbj
Enclosures

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